

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 074860
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:IO/UNP:TNILES:EK

APPROVED BY:IO:TBROWN

-----097232 230451Z /11

O 230351Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE 8729

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 074860

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 0898 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON,
MOSCOW, PARIS, PRETORIA, VIENNA AND CAPE TOWN MAR 14.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00898

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

VIENNA FOR IAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, PARM, PORG, UNSC, SF

SUBJECT: USSR CONSIDERING UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH
AFRICAN NUCLEAR ACTIVITY

1. SOVIET AMB TROYANOVSKY TOLD AMB MCHENRY MARCH 13
THAT USSR WAS CONSIDERING GOING TO THE SECURITY
COUNCIL ON QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR
ACTIVITIES. HE SAID SOVIETS HAVE EVIDENCE THAT
SOUTH AFRICA IS GOING AHEAD WITH CONSTRUCTION OF
NUCLEAR BOMB.

2. TROYANOVSKY SAID SOVIETS WERE NOW CONSULTING
WITH AFRICANS ON SC CONSIDERATION OF THIS QUESTION.
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PAGE 02 STATE 074860

HE CLAIMED US AND UK HAD BEEN CONSULTED AS WELL
BUT PROVIDED NO DETAILS. ACTION BEING CONTEMPLATED,
ACCORDING TO TROYANOVSKY, IS RESOLUTION BUILDING
ON 32ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON
DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA (RESOLUTION 32/81 OF
DECEMBER 12, 1977).

3. MCHENRY RESPONDED THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY RECENT SOVIET APPROACH TO US ON THIS QUESTION (THERE HAS BEEN NON HERE). HE SAID HE WAS AWARE OF RECENT ARTICLE IN SOVIET PRESS ON THIS SUBJECT BUT HAD NOT REALIZED THIS REFLECTED FRESH SOVIET CONCERN. OUR POSITION, HE NOTED, WAS UNCHANGED. WE ARE CONTINUING TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY, INCLUDING THE KALAHARI ACTIVITY. THE US FAVORED SOUTH AFRICAN ADHERENCE TO THE NPT. HE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THERE WERE OBLIGATIONS IN THE NPT WHICH WE HOPED THE SOVIETS RECOGNIZED. TROYANOVSKY AGREED AND SAID THAT THE IMPORTANT POINT WAS THE NECESSARY SAFEGUARDS. YOUNG UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE074860
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNP:TNILES:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780127-0721
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780331/aaaabadw.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e2b2d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3223250
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USSR CONSIDERING UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ACTIVITY
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, PORC, SF, UNSC
To: LAGOS LONDON MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e2b2d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014